



# Arizona Department of Public Safety

**- For Immediate Release -**

Thursday, March 13, 2008

## Arizona Department of Public Safety Seizes 23 Pounds of Cocaine in the Month of February

Traffic stops made by Arizona Department of Public Safety Officers last month resulted in the seizure of 23 pounds of Cocaine and almost 7 pounds of Methamphetamine. The Cocaine has a street value of approximately \$50,000.

The largest seizure was made on Interstate 10 westbound (near Picacho Peak) on February 26<sup>th</sup> after a DPS Officer stopped a green sedan for a traffic violation. A search of this vehicle revealed eight separate packages of Cocaine which combined to weigh a total of 20 pounds. The Cocaine was located in a non-factory compartment in the area of the passenger side airbag.

On February 28<sup>th</sup>, a DPS Officer stopped a Dodge Van on I-40 eastbound near Winslow for a traffic violation. A subsequent search resulted in the discovery of 5 pounds of Methamphetamine in a constructed compartment in the dashboard. The vehicle had Arizona Fallen Officer license plates and was driven by an Undocumented Alien.

Three additional pounds of Cocaine and two additional pounds of Methamphetamine were seized by DPS Officers during other, unrelated traffic stops in February.

"Twenty three pounds of Cocaine seized in one month is a fairly significant amount. Our Officers throughout the state remain dedicated to getting these narcotics off the streets and away from neighborhoods," said Roger Vanderpool, Director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

### **Press Inquiries:**

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